



U.S. Department of Energy's  
**Office of Science**

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# **U.S. Position on the Test Blanket Module (TBM) Program**

**Fusion Energy Sciences Advisory Committee**



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# U.S. TBM Program

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- o TBMs are part of the ITER mission but they are not part of the U.S. Contributions to ITER project and are outside of the scope of the present ITER Agreement
- o TBMs have never been included within the negotiated ITER construction scope or cost estimate
- o For the U.S., TBMs, should we participate, must be part of our base program
- o Any U.S. effort to design and fabricate TBM hardware would need to be organized and managed as a project consistent with the DOE Project Management Order (413.3A)

# International Situation – TBM Program

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- o Ad Hoc Group was formed in Spring 2006 to address TBM issues
- o U.S. believes TBMs need to be considered as part of a broader discussion on ITER experimental/research plan
- o More concepts than available test positions (6)
- o Issues of sharing the access, data, mode of collaborative agreement, and liability for any potential damage to the ITER facility, need to be resolved
- o ITER's Preliminary Safety Report and other factors are “pushing” both the Parties and the international ITER Organization (IO) to near term resolution of issues
- o Will be a discussion topic at next N Level meeting at the end of March